

MAY 26 2009

Application Serial No. 10/581,954

Response to Office Action dated November 24, 2008

PATENT
Docket: CU-4863Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of repelling or deterring slugs comprising the steps of:

obtaining naturally occurring secretions from a ground beetle wherein the secretions include at least one acid selected from the group consisting of methacrylic acid, tiglic acid, crotonic acid, formic acid and acetic acid; and

applying the beetle secretions to an application surfacea portion of a plant whereby the slugs are repelled or deterred.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the plant is a pea plant.

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A slug repellent comprising:

water; and

ground beetle pygidial gland secretion comprising at least one acid selected from the group consisting of methacrylic acid, tiglic acid, crotonic acid, formic acid and acetic acid.

6. (currently amended) The slug repellent of claim 5, wherein said at least one acid comprises methacrylic acid.

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7. (original) The slug repellent of claim 6, wherein said at least one acid further comprises tiglic acid.
8. (original) The slug repellent of claim 6 wherein said at least one acid further comprises crotonic acid.
9. (original) The slug repellent of claim 5, wherein said at least one acid comprises formic acid.
10. (original) The slug repellent of claim 5, wherein said at least one acid comprises acetic acid.
11. (original) The slug repellent of claim 10, wherein said at least one acid further comprises crotonic acid.
12. (original) The slug repellent of claim 5, wherein said at least one acid comprises tiglic acid.
13. (cancelled)
14. (cancelled)
15. (cancelled)
16. (new) The slug repellent as in claim 5, wherein the ground beetle is at least one selected from the group consisting of *P. melanarius*, *H. rufipes*, *P. cupreus*, and *P. madidus*.